



County of Los Angeles
**Beach
Commission**

13837 Fiji Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292

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AGENDA

Meeting of the Beach Commission

October 26, 2011

9:30 a.m.

Burton Chace Park

13650 Mindanao Way

Marina del Rey, CA 90292

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(September 28, 2011)

3. OLD BUSINESS

None

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation on the Zuma Creek Fish Habitat

(PRESENTATION)

B. Request by Malibu for Temporary Relocation of Skate Park
to Zuma Beach Parking Lot

(DISCUSS REPORT)

5. STAFF REPORTS

A. Ongoing Activities Report

(DISCUSS REPORT)

▪ Board Actions on Items Relating to Beaches

B. Beach and Marina del Rey Special Events

(DISCUSS REPORT)

C. Facilities and Property Maintenance Division Report
Regarding Beach Maintenance

(VERBAL REPORT)

D. Capital Projects Status Report

(DISCUSS REPORT)

E. Lifeguard Report

(VERBAL REPORT)

F. Dockweiler Youth Center Usage Report

(DISCUSS REPORT)

*Clare Bronowski, Chair
Catherine McCurdy,
Vice-Chair*

*Thomas Barnes
Ronald Chatman
Rosi Dagit
Gary R. Dimkich
Walt Dougher*

*Don Doyle
Jeffrey Jennings
Kelly McDowell
Charles Milam
Wayne Powell*

*Norma Pratt
Don Rohrer
Jeffrey Sallee
Andrew Stern*

6. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

7. NEXT MEETING DATE & LOCATION – Wednesday, November 23, 2011, at 9:30 a.m. at Burton Chace Park Community Room.

8. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE NOTE:

1. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted Chapter 2.160 of the Los Angeles Code (Ord. 93-0031 § 2 (part), 1993), relating to lobbyists. Any person who seeks support or endorsement from the Beach Commission on any official actions must certify that he/she is familiar with the requirements of this ordinance. A copy of the ordinance can be provided prior to the meeting and certification is to be made before or at the meeting.
2. The agenda will be posted on the Internet and displayed at the following locations at least 72 hours preceding the meeting date:

Department of Beaches and Harbors' Website Address: beaches.lacounty.gov or marinadelrey.lacounty.gov

Department of Beaches and Harbors
Administration Building
13837 Fiji Way
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Marina del Rey Information Center
4701 Admiralty Way
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Burton Chace Park Community Room
13650 Mindanao Way
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Lloyd Taber – Marina del Rey Library
4533 Admiralty Way
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Si necesita asistencia para interpretar esta informacion llame al (310) 305-9546.

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**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BEACH COMMISSION
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2011**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Clare Bronowski, Chair
Rosi Dagit
Gary Dimkich
Walt Dougher
Jeffrey Jennings
Catherine McCurdy, Vice Chair
Kelly McDowell
Charles Milam
Wayne Powell
Don Rohrer
Jeffrey Sallee
Andrew Stern

ABSENCES

Thomas Barnes
Ronald Chatman
Norma Pratt

STAFF PRESENT

Fernando Boiteux, Section Captain, Lifeguard Division,
Los Angeles County Fire Department
Kenneth Foreman, Acting Division Chief, Facilities and
Property Maintenance Division
Catrina Love, Community & Marketing
Services Division
Penelope Rodriguez, Community & Marketing
Services Division
Cesar Espinosa, Planning Division
Gene Campbell, Information Technology Section

GUEST SPEAKERS

None

MEETING LOCATION

Burton W. Chace Park Community Room

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Bronowski called the meeting to order at 9:44 a.m. and asked Commissioner McDowell to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners and staff stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Bronowski had one change for the July minutes. Chair Bronowski motioned for the minutes to be approved. Commissioner McDowell seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Reconsideration of the May 25, 2011 Minutes

Ms. Love stated that the minutes from the May 25th Beach Commission meeting regarding the Permit Policy, which were approved by the Beach Commission at the June 22nd meeting, should be amended. The minutes stated that Camp Operator Patrick Murphy supported the location bid as a tie-breaker. Mr. Murphy's statement was actually that the location bid should be capped or eliminated. Also, the vote to move this matter forward to the Board was reported inaccurately in the minutes. The minutes stated that the vote was six to two in favor when actually it was five to three in favor. The minutes have been corrected. Commissioner Milam asked who were the five in favor and stated that the vote should be listed by name since it was divided. Chair Bronowski stated that people did not identify themselves during the vote and there was no quorum so it didn't matter. Commissioner Milam stated that this was an embarrassment for the Commission. Ms. Love apologized and said in future votes the Commissioners would be identified. Ms. Love asked if there were any questions. There were none. **Chair Bronowski asked for a vote to approve the amended minutes, and the minutes were approved.**

Yes - Chair Bronowski, Commissioner McCurdy, Commissioner Dougher, Commissioner McDowell, Commissioner Powell, Commissioner Rohrer, Commissioner Sallee and Commissioner Stern

Abstentions - Commissioner Dagit, Commissioner Dimkich, Commissioner Jennings, and Commissioner Milam

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Presentation on the Zuma Beach Underpass

Chair Bronowski introduced Mr. Espinosa, DBH Planning Division, who showed the commission a PowerPoint presentation on the Zuma Beach underpass project. The underpass is located near the intersection of Busch Drive and Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) in Malibu and is the main entrance to the parking lot for Zuma Beach. Mr. Espinosa stated that this access road project has been ongoing since 1983 when a concrete roadside levee was constructed to protect the underpass from the creek. Storms have deposited large amounts of sediment within the realigned creek bed causing storm flows to be redirected across a portion of the access road. Therefore, the Department has been continually forced to close the access road during and after storms due to the sediment and flooding. The Department began looking for a long-term solution for this problem. The Department filed a regulatory permit application with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CA Department of Fish and Game, Caltrans, and the City of Malibu. The application was approved pending a replanting plan. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provisionally approved the application, pending the water certification approval, and both the Department of Fish and Game and the City of Malibu approved the application. However, Caltrans denied it because they required a storm water prevention protection plan, which the Department was still developing. The City of Malibu application was appealed by the CA Coastal Commission. Two CA Coastal Commissioners were concerned because of issues registered by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC). Since

then, the project has been on hold. One of their issues raised is an alternative entrance to the parking lot at Zuma Beach and the other is to be less intrusive at the creek site. DBH is negotiating with SMBRC and will reapply for the regulatory permits. The project should restart by January. Mr. Espinosa asked the Commissioners if they had any questions. Commissioner Dougher asked if there was an option to do nothing, and what the cost of the project is. Mr. Espinosa stated there is no new estimate; however, before the issues were raised, the project was going to cost about \$100,000. Commissioner Stern said that intersection was really dangerous. Mr. Espinosa said DBH is very aware of the danger and was trying to expedite this matter. Commissioner Jennings asked why the roadway was being repaved prior to heavy equipment being brought in for the underpass project. Mr. Foreman said the opportunity was there and the weight of the materials being removed would not do any damage. Commissioner Jennings commented that the access road was closed during the heavy use summer, and asked whether there was an impact to parking revenue. Mr. Espinosa said he did not know but would look into it. Commissioner Jennings asked why the determination was made to close the road this year. Mr. Foreman said that this year, there was more water and with people driving so fast, the algae build-up was making it slippery and unsafe. Commissioner Jennings asked what the contemplated alternate route would be if the underpass were eliminated. Mr. Espinosa said that SMBRC was taking the lead on that decision and DBH would support and assist them, but as of now they were looking at Busch Drive as an alternative. Commissioner Jennings said this is a big concern for the people living in Point Dume because the underpass accessway provides an alternate route in case of fire or other disasters, and Mr. Espinosa replied that DBH is aware of those concerns.

Commissioner McDowell raised two questions about the permitting process for the Zuma underpass project. He first asked about the level and status of CEQA compliance for the project, and then asked to which agency the Coastal Commission had appealed the City of Malibu's permit approval decision, based on SMBRC's concerns. Mr. Espinosa replied that at the time of the original scope of the project, the CEQA Categorical Exemption was applied. However at this time, with the revisions to the plan, DBH is looking at what is needed to comply with CEQA. In response to Commissioner McDowell's second question about the Coastal Commission appeal, an unidentified Commissioner stated that the Coastal Commission appeals to itself and that two Coastal Commissioners are needed to make an appeal. Mr. Espinosa added that the two commissioners who submitted the appeal were Sara Wan and Patrick Cruer.

Commissioner Dagit addressed the subject of the traffic feasibility study's assertion that it was necessary to keep the Busch Drive ingress in order to maintain the parking lot kiosk's ability to collect fees. She raised the point that SMBRC had suggested an alternative, where rather than having traffic backed up as people wait to get to the kiosk, the County could switch to a self-pay system where people could drive through, which would then relieve the traffic back-up on Busch Drive. Mr. Espinosa replied that that suggestion could be explored.

Commissioner Dagit also provided an overview of the situation at Zuma Creek. She stated that Zuma Creek has had Southern Steelhead Trout as recently as the 1980s and also has a number of passage barriers throughout. The two first barriers are located just past the in-stream crossing, which is being changed because Fish and Game gave a grant to either remove that crossing or replace it with a bridge to allow the fish in there. The next barrier for the fish is located underneath PCH, which could be managed by removing the sediments and restoring the creek channel. Then upstream of there, there are 18 additional small barriers that are either driveways across the creek or dams that people have built along the creek, located between PCH and the National Park Service land. National Park Service owns the entire upper watershed and one month ago, they put out a Request for Proposals to

examine removing those upper barriers. Commissioner Dagit said that this effort to look into the removal of the passage barriers is one part of the overall effort being coordinated by National Marine Fisheries Service, Fish and Game, National Park Service, and CalTrout to figure out ways to improve fish passage and restore Zuma Creek. An unidentified Commissioner asked whether National Park Service was working with the Coastal Commission on the plan to remove the upstream barriers, and Commissioner Dagit responded that they were not as yet because the RFP to remove those barriers was only recently released and furthermore, since all the barriers are privately owned, the removal process would require negotiating with each one of the private landowners. Mr. Espinosa commented that at this time, DBH has not dealt with any other agencies besides SMBRC.

Another unidentified Commissioner asked whether there were any land use or easement rights, or anything else associated with the homes adjacent to Busch Drive that might be impacted by permitting the Zuma Creek underpass project in the area. He also wanted to know whether these property owners supported or opposed the project. Mr. Espinosa replied that DBH hasn't reached out to the public yet but does plan to solicit their input as part of the process of revising the plans.

Commissioner Dimkich asked Commissioner Dagit whether she thought the limited dredging out of the two bays should be suspended until the complete removal of all the barriers is negotiated. Commissioner Dagit replied that she did not think the dredging should be suspended, because the dredging was necessary to maintain access for the road and that it would also provide passage for the fish further up Zuma creek once the Arizona crossing is removed. Commissioner Dimkich asked Commissioner Dagit whether she was aware of SMBRC's opinion on the barrier removal. Commissioner Dagit replied that she did not have that information because she had looked into this issue with SMBRC well over a year ago and hadn't heard more about it until this recent RFP came out from National Park Service. She then heard from CalTrout that they collaboratively submitted a grant proposal to Fish and Game to remove the Arizona crossing and replace it with a bridge. Mr. Espinosa said that DBH would find out about SMBRC's opinion on the barrier removal plan.

Commissioner Dimkich noted that the property located within the loop of the Zuma underpass is minimally landscaped and asked if there was any interest on the part of DBH to lease it to either the City of Malibu or to a non-profit organization who would undertake the landscaping in a more attractive way once the project is finished. Mr. Foreman said that as soon as the road repavement project is done, DBH would be looking into what could be done to improve the appearance of that loop. Commissioner Dagit suggested that the improvement of that loop could become the site for the mitigation restoration DBH is required to do to offset the removal of riparian vegetation during the clean out underneath the base, and that willows could be an attractive option that is both native and low maintenance. Commissioner Rohrer requested a brief historical review on this issue with the Zuma underpass. Mr. Foreman said according to Division Chief Wayne Schumaker, in the past DBH maintenance staff would routinely go through and remove the sediment material. However, at some point they were told to stop that activity, and that's when the sediment started to build up.

Commissioner Powell noted that with so many regulatory agencies and stakeholders involved in this project, there is a possibility that consensus may not be reached in revising and resubmitting the plans. He asked what the contingency plan was in case such a consensus couldn't be reached. Mr. Espinosa said that the plans have not been revised yet but that DBH is working with SMBRC and is close to an agreement with them. He added that DBH hasn't yet explored contingency plans should the resubmitted applications get denied, but would do so.

Chair Bronowski asked whether there was a possibility of DBH putting up signage earlier and higher up on the hill, alerting drivers on PCH that access to Zuma is on the left, and that the right turn into Zuma is closed. Mr. Foreman said DBH would be closing off the right turn entrance into the underpass, which would force drivers to continue north on PCH and relieve some of the safety concerns raised. Commissioner Dagit wondered about how drivers on PCH would get to the beach, once they drove past the closed underpass entrance on the right. Mr. Espinosa replied that there is a left turn lane on PCH to access Zuma beach. Chair Bronowski reiterated her suggestion for signage up on the hill informing drivers how to access Zuma beach from PCH. Mr. Foreman said he would check with Cal Trans to see if DBH could place some additional signage on the highway to divert people into the left turn lane if they're trying to access the beach. Mr. Espinosa said DBH would make sure to keep everyone updated on this project.

5. STAFF REPORTS

A. Ongoing Activities Report

Commissioner Milam asked about the beach use license process; specifically when it would begin, what the timing of the process would be, and what the representation on the review panel is. Mrs. Rodriguez said that the applications are due next week by October 6 and that Chief Deputy Kerry Silverstrom was still working on assembling a panel. Mrs. Silverstrom has inquired with local cities, the Department of Parks & Recreation, Chief Frazer, and former Division Chief Dusty Crane regarding participation on the evaluation committee, but there is no set list yet. Commissioner Milam suggested that there be at least one or two Beach Commissioners on the panel because of the controversy, criticism, and opposing testimonies heard in the public meetings. Mrs. Rodriguez said she'd advise Mrs. Silverstrom about the suggestion.

Ms. Love announced that since the time the beach use policy was first brought before the Beach Commission at the May meeting, the policy had been renamed the "Beach & Harbor Use License Policy" and was approved by the Board on August 23rd. Ms. Love also mentioned that the Board approved the Commission's sunset review date in July, and that the Board adopted the amended County code reflecting the Commission's sunset review extension date through December 31, 2014.

B. Beach and Marina del Rey Special Events

Ms. Love announced that although the annual Discover Marina del Rey event at Burton Chace Park had previously been cut from the 2011-12 DBH budget due to lack of funding, new funding sources have since been identified and the event would be taking place after all on Sunday, October 9, 11 am – 4 pm. In addition to exhibitor booths, inflatables, games and rides, there would also be new composting workshops.

Commissioner Sallee asked if there would be any changes impacting the Beach Commission as a result of the September 27 Board meeting regarding redistricting of the County, and an unidentified Commissioner replied that there would not be.

Commissioner Powell mentioned that he attended one of the summer concerts for the first time along with the mayor of Redondo Beach, and that everyone in his party enjoyed and appreciated the

experience. They also took the WaterBus, where they were seated next to Mrs. Silverstrom, and heard comments from members of the public about keeping the summer concerts available to the public.

C. Facilities and Property Maintenance Division Report

Mr. Foreman announced that Chief Wayne Schumaker would be officially retiring from the County as of September 29. There would be a retirement party for him the following Thursday at the Marina del Rey Hotel, and arrangements could be made for any Commissioners wanting to attend.

Mr. Foreman also announced that with the end of Labor Day, FPMD staff had switched to the off-summer schedule. Instead of working 5:00 am - 10:30 pm and instead of three shifts, most of the staff is now working the standard two shifts 6:00 am - 2:30 pm, as well as the night shift. In addition, FPMD would be extending employment of the temporary summer workers for a few additional months to compensate for the unfilled personnel vacancies, in order to prepare for the winter storms while also performing many of the weeding, landscaping, and beautification duties that were unaddressed due to the focus on maintaining the restrooms the summer.

Mr. Foreman also mentioned that in the South Bay, the Department of Public Works has started renovating sections of the bicycle trail that need to be repaired or realigned, starting at Manhattan Beach, working to Torrance, and then finishing at Dockweiler. Commissioner Saltee asked whether the bathrooms that are being built in Hermosa Beach were County or City funded, and also whether any other County-funded bathrooms were going to be built. He mentioned that the biking community would like to see bike racks in the front areas of the bathrooms in Hermosa and wanted to know whether there were any bike racks planned to be installed when the concrete is poured. Mr. Foreman said that the Hermosa Beach bathrooms were City funded and that there were no current plans to construct new bathrooms on the County beaches. He then referred the question regarding new bike racks to Ms. Love, who reported that DBH had been working with an organization that was interested in entering into a sponsorship agreement to provide bike racks featuring advertising panels, but that those talks have since fallen through. She stated that DBH would be able to install bike racks along the County beaches as soon as a suitable sponsor was found. Commissioner Saltee mentioned that the Beach Cities Health District and Vitality City might be interested in discussing such an agreement with DBH, and Ms. Love said she would obtain those organizations' contact information at the end of the meeting. She also asked whether DBH had any bike racks currently in storage that could be installed back on the beaches. Mr. Foreman said that there were no unused bike racks in storage. He mentioned that in doing an inventory of current bike racks for the previously mentioned organization, he noticed that many of the current bike racks were old, rusted and poorly designed. He is now trying to note locations for future bike racks that would be beneficial to users of the bike path, but this project would depend on what other projects were going on and what funding could be identified. Commissioner Saltee said that the initial buildings at the south entrance to Redondo Beach Pier, right along the County bike path, would be getting refaced and that the City of Redondo Beach is anticipating funding a 100-150 bike capacity bike rack at that location, with Pete Carmichael leading the project. He added that he'd make sure to forward the contacts of the people who've been asking about the bike racks.

Mr. Foreman reported that FPMD has started replacing the fence at Redondo Beach that's along the slope as of last week, with posts being put up. The new fence will be a little lower than the current fence so that the ocean view is maintained, while still preventing people from trying to go down the

slope to access the beach or the bike path below. The last item Mr. Foreman reported on was the area south of White Point, just before the Point Fermin/ Cabrillo Beach area where a landslide occurred a couple of years ago on the ocean side of Paseo Del Mar. The stress of that previous landslide is now causing the roadway to start sliding as well. The City of L.A. has notified all the utility agencies to close off services to that area, including the sewer line that feeds the County restroom at White Point. Mr. Foreman said the restroom would have to be closed for an undetermined time until the sewer line could be realigned, and he has a meeting with Public Works this afternoon to discuss this very subject. The City of L.A. is monitoring the area on a daily basis to see how much the land is shifting. Based on a discussion with the City's engineer a couple of days ago, the area is shifting roughly 1/8 of an inch every two days, so there is a concern that a heavy portion of that area may be lost during the heavy winter rains.

D. Capital Projects Status Report

Chair Bronowski asked whether there was any information on the City of L.A.'s inquiry into the feasibility of taking back the operation and maintenance responsibilities for Venice Beach. Ms. Love replied that updates on this subject would be presented at the next meeting since not much news was available at the recent meeting with the City of L.A. Commissioner Doyle asked whether the City was negotiating with the State or with the County on the operation of Venice Beach, and how extensive would the operation be if they did take it over. Mr. Foreman responded that since the City owns Venice Beach, they don't need to negotiate with the State. He said he thought the City was considering taking back the operation of Venice Beach because it would be lucrative due to the quantity of activity that takes place there. Mr. Foreman stated that DBH's stance is that should the City resume operation of Venice Beach, there would be other City-owned beaches that they should also take over from the County as well, since these other beaches are a drain on the County's budget. The Department is currently in negotiations with the City on this very subject.

E. Lifeguard Report

Section Chief Fernando Boiteux of the County Fire Department, responsible for the Northern part of the County, represented Lifeguard Chief Frazer. Mr. Boiteux reported that the Lifeguards had a much busier summer than last year, with an increase in attendance as well as incidents of rescue. Although the Lifeguards faced one of the highest surfs in recent history during August, Mr. Boiteux remarked that the Lifeguards had a very successful summer with no major incidents nor tragedies during the whole season. Mr. Boiteux mentioned that the County Lifeguards won the Lifeguard Nationals for the 27th year in a row. At the summer festivities in the South Bay, the Venice crew won the inter-crew competition, and the central section won the taplin. The Australians got third place in Muscle Beach.

Commissioner Milam mentioned that on the prior Sunday, he noticed kelp flies swarming the lifeguard station at 18th Street, completely covering the eaves and the overhang.

An unidentified Commissioner asked whether any beach erosion has been noticed due to the high surf, and whether the County beaches were getting smaller. Mr. Boiteux replied that it depends on the location. In the northern part of the County, such as at Malibu, beach erosion has been occurring but

for the past couple weeks, a lot of the sand has returned. In the central part of the County, such as at Santa Monica, Venice, and Will Rogers, there's more sand than ever before.

Commissioner Milam inquired about the status of a restroom structure in either Torrance or Redondo Beach that had had a problem with eroding sand. He wondered whether that restroom had become endangered again due to summer storms and high surf. Mr. Foreman said that the only area of real concern due to the high surf last month was at the lifeguard facility at Culver Blvd. on Dockweiler Beach. A groin extends just in front of that area which caused the high surf to aim waves directly at the facility, and FPMD had to dump sand at that location on a daily basis just to slow the erosion process in order to save the structure. That was the only facility that was a cause of concern due to high surf and erosion.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner McCurdy requested, as a future agenda item, an update on the Dockweiler Youth Center to see how the programs are doing, such as the level of outreach to kids, the success rate of efforts to increase usage of the facility, and the revenue stream generated from renting the property out for events such as weddings. Ms. Love said DBH would have that information at the next meeting.

Commissioner McDowell thanked staff for inviting Commissioners to submit issues about which they would like to have reports. He stated that this was first time this has happened in the 13 years he's been on the Commission. Chair Bronowski said that a commitment was made to hold regular Commission meetings and staff decided to solicit ideas for discussion topics since there weren't many items on the agenda for today's meeting. She also stated that staff was open to scheduling any outside speakers that Commissioners wished to recommend in the future.

Commissioner Dougher asked whether the DBH Director and Chief Deputy Director would be unavailable for meetings in the future. Ms. Love responded that that isn't the case at all and that today just posed a scheduling conflict for them. She stated that they both apologized for not being able to attend and that in the future Mr. Kreimann would try to attend every meeting or have Mrs. Silverstrom attend in his place.

Commissioner Sallee proposed having Vitality City or another organization make a presentation on the Bike Path Master Plan. He also requested a more comprehensive review of the Dockweiler area. Specifically, he mentioned that he's received inquiries about Vista del Mar and the parallel parking that occurs there. He stated that he's heard about previous plans for a parking lot on the east side of the street that were discussed by the 4th District and would like to know more about any plans to address the unsafe condition of parallel parking on a road with 40 mph traffic. Commissioner Sallee also proposed obtaining more information on any prior plan to address the vegetation around the embankment to Dockweiler Beach, as well as the recent sinkhole on the street, and what any new plans would be moving forward. Ms. Love said that she's taken note of all the suggestions, including Commissioner Dagit's suggestion to have someone from National Park Service and SMBRC present more information about the fish passage.

Commissioner Powell mentioned that one of the leadership projects at Manhattan Beach provided approximately 40 bike racks, a few of which were in the Pier area near the bike path and now there are a number of community organizations that want to add additional racks. All of the bike racks were

non-advertising and non-revenue generated, which is great, so Commissioner Powell suggested that DBH reach out to the various community groups, such as the South Bay Bicycle Coalition and Vitality City. He also invited all the Commissioners to the City of Manhattan Beach's annual hometown fair this weekend, and the 10K run on Saturday morning.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bronowski adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

The next meeting is scheduled for November 28, 2011, 9:30 a.m. at Burton Chace Park.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl McGee
Commission Secretary



To enrich lives through effective and caring service

October 20, 2011



Santos H. Kreimann

Director

Kerry Silverstrom

Chief Deputy

Gary Jones

Deputy Director

TO: Beach Commission

FROM: Santos H. Kreimann, Director

SUBJECT: **AGENDA ITEM 4A – PRESENTATION ON ZUMA CREEK FISH HABITAT**

Item 4A pertains to a request by your Commission for a status report on the efforts of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) and the National Park Service (NPS) to improve the Zuma Creek Fish Habitat (Habitat). Staff from SMBRC will be providing your Commission with a presentation on the Habitat at your Commission meeting and will be prepared to answer any questions you may have specific to its efforts to improve the Habitat after the formal presentation. Although a representative from NPS will be unavailable to attend the upcoming meeting, an update on its efforts to advance the Habitat is summarized below. Questions regarding NPS's efforts will be routed to NPS by Department staff after the meeting.

Zuma Creek is one of the few Southern California coastal streams documented to support Southern Steelhead Trout as recently as the 1980s. Southern Steelhead Trout is considered a Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of Steelhead Trout by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that is listed as endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act and a Species of Special Concern by the State of California. The Arizona Crossing and the Zuma Beach Underpass levees are major barriers to the Southern Steelhead Trout migration in Zuma Creek. As part of the SMBRC's mission to preserve and protect resources within the Santa Monica Bay, the organization and its partners, such as NPS, are working to restore Southern Steelhead Trout and improve Habitat connectivity for Southern Steelhead Trout throughout the Santa Monica Mountains.

Summary of NPS Involvement in Steelhead Trout Habitat Restoration Work in Zuma Canyon

Prepared for the Beach Commission by Christy Brigham, Chief
of Planning, Science, and Resources Management

Restoration Work in Zuma Canyon to Date:

- Since 2006, NPS has been working with students and other volunteers to restore riparian habitat in the avocado orchard area of NPS lands in Zuma Canyon (Busch Dr. trailhead area).
- We have restored 4 acres of riparian habitat and an additional 4 acres of coastal sage scrub habitat to date.
- We have been removing invasive plant species within the riparian zone of Zuma Canyon from Upper Zuma Falls to the boundary of our property in Zuma Canyon on an annual basis since 2004.

Stream Community Monitoring Throughout the Santa Monica Mountains Including Zuma Creek:

- We have been monitoring stream community diversity, abundance and overall health in watersheds throughout the Santa Monica Mountains, including Zuma Creek, since 2000. This work is done in partnership with the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains, USGS, and Pepperdine University.
- A peer-reviewed journal publication on the early results of this research was published in 2005 (Riley et al. Conservation Biology:19(6) 2005) in the journal Conservation Biology.
- Stream monitoring is on-going.
- We are currently working with partners at California State Parks, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains to evaluate potential red-legged frog habitat throughout the Santa Monica Mountains for possible future re-introduction efforts.

Steelhead Trout Habitat Restoration Evaluation Work in Zuma Canyon to Date:

- Research by Rosi Dagit and others indicates that steelhead trout were present in Zuma Creek in the Zuma Canyon area within the recent past. Based on these and other findings (summarized in a 2006 CalTrout report), as well as the presence of high quality native habitat on NPS lands in Zuma Canyon, we are interested in evaluating whether restoration of steelhead trout access to Zuma Canyon is feasible.
- We have discussed the potential for restoration of steelhead trout access to, and habitat quality within, Zuma Canyon with several park partners including the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission. Our role in these discussions has been in an advisory capacity based on our prior restoration work on NPS lands within the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. We have not seen, nor have we commented on, specific restoration plans for steelhead access in the PCH area of Zuma Creek.
- NPS is interested in restoring steelhead trout habitat, where feasible, within the Santa Monica Mountains overall, in support of efforts to maintain this important endangered species within our park.
- In the late summer of 2011, the Santa Monica Mountains Fund, in partnership with NPS and the Southern California Research Learning Center, released a request for proposals to fund a study of the feasibility of removing barriers to steelhead trout passage in Zuma Creek.
- The Santa Monica Mountains Fund-sponsored study will only examine barriers upstream of, and not including, the barrier at Busch Drive. In other words, our study will not include study of the barriers at PCH, south of PCH or immediately adjacent to PCH to the north.

- A cooperator for the feasibility study was selected in mid-October and work will start on the project in November/December.
- The study will be completed within one year.
- After the Santa Monica Mountains Fund and NPS receive the results of the feasibility study, then we will evaluate whether to move forward with partnership efforts to seek funding to remove barriers and restore fish passage and fish habitat within the Zuma Canyon area. The decision of whether to pursue habitat restoration and barrier removal in Zuma Canyon will be made in close consultation with stakeholders.
- We continue to be interested in public, agency, and other stakeholder input on the feasibility of restoring fish passage in Zuma Canyon and welcome an on-going dialogue regarding the future of steelhead trout in Zuma Canyon and the Santa Monica Mountains as a whole.

SHK:ks



To enrich lives through effective and caring service

October 20, 2011



TO: Beach Commission
FROM: *Kerry Silverstrom for*
Santos H. Kreimann, Director

Santos H. Kreimann
Director
Kerry Silverstrom
Chief Deputy
Gary Jones
Deputy Director

SUBJECT: **AGENDA ITEM 4B – REQUEST BY MALIBU FOR TEMPORARY
RELOCATION OF SKATE PARK TO ZUMA BEACH PARKING LOT**

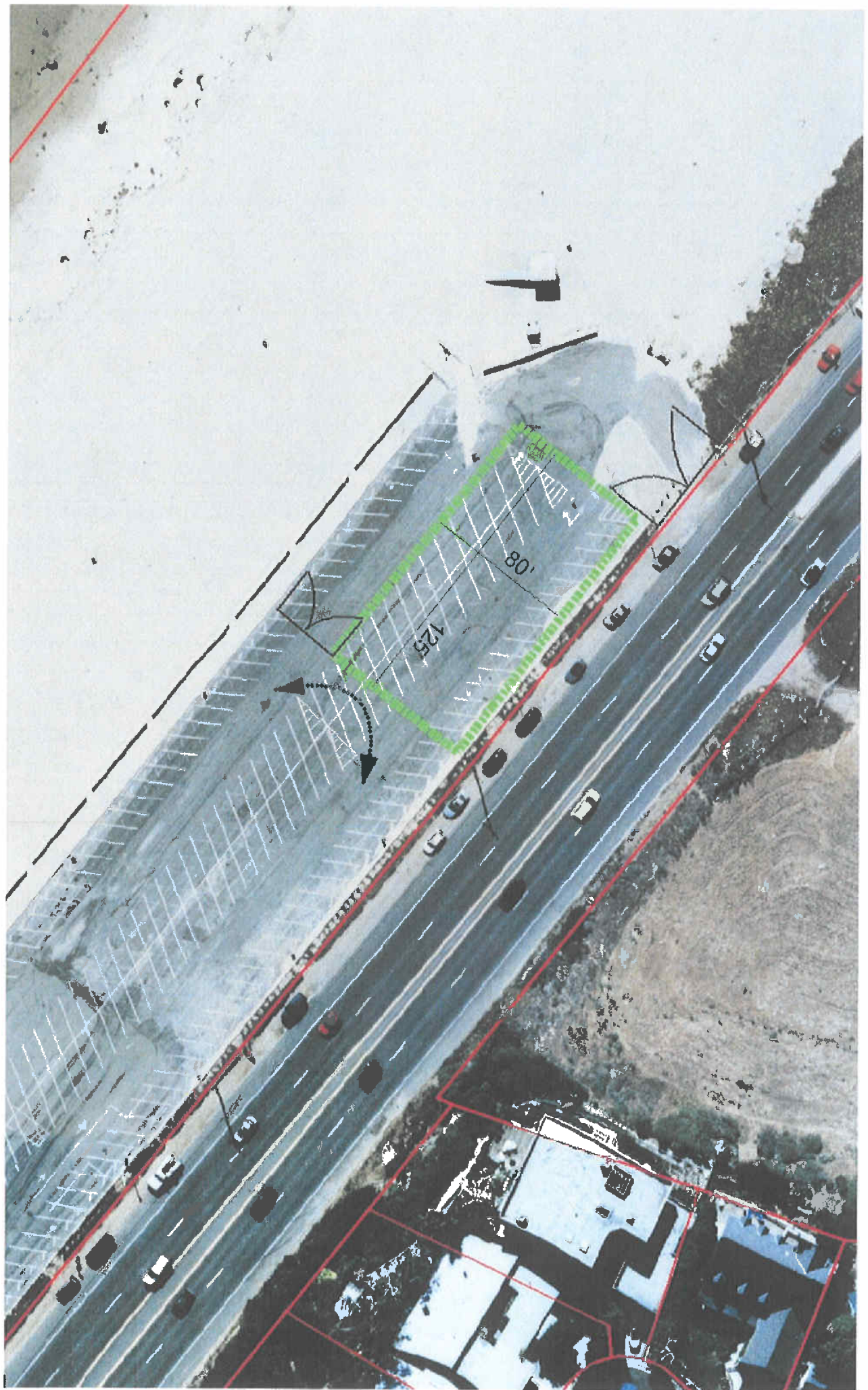
We have been approached by the City of Malibu for the temporary relocation of its City-run skate park to the Zuma Beach parking lot furthest north (known as Lot 12) for a one-year period. The location where the park has been located is no longer available to the City and, until a permanent site can be located, the City is looking for a temporary site for skate park operations.

Please find attached a diagram identifying where within Lot 12 the City proposes to locate its skate park. Issues that would need resolution in connection with a license to the City for its use of our parking lot include:

- Maneuverability in the lot for large trucks or off-highway equipment accessing Zuma Beach from Pacific Coast Highway at the northern end of the lot used not only by our Department, but also the Sheriff's and Fire Departments and other safety organizations when an emergency presents itself and/or evacuation is required, as well as by film companies, residents' contractors, and others.
- Interference with special events conducted annually at north Zuma Beach.
- Operational concerns with respect to lot access for skate park patrons for free without compromising the Department's ability to collect parking fees from general beach patrons, including how to monitor and control the access.
- Traffic congestion and/or accidents from ingress/egress into/out of the northern end of the lot and lack of control when the entrance chain is down.
- Revenue to the County from the City for use of the County's property.
- Liability and indemnification issues.
- Potential damage to County property.

We are still exploring the feasibility and advisability of allowing the use of one of our parking lots for skate park purposes. However, we wanted to bring this to your attention in order to learn of any other additional issues you believe should be considered, as well as what your general impressions are relative to such use of our parking lot. We welcome your input.

SHK:ks
Attachment





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Santos H. Kreimann

Director

Kerry Silverstrom

Chief Deputy

Gary Jones

Deputy Director

October 20, 2011

TO: Beach Commission

FROM: Santos H. Kreimann, Director

SUBJECT: **AGENDA ITEM 5A - ONGOING ACTIVITIES REPORT**

BOARD ACTIONS ON ITEMS RELATING TO BEACHES

On October 18, 2011, the Board approved the third amendment to the Beach Trash Barrel Sponsorship agreement with Adopt-A-Highway Maintenance Corporation (Adopt-A-Highway), which will extend the agreement for two years from October 23, 2011, with one three-year extension option. In exchange, Adopt-A-Highway will provide 2,500 lidded trash barrels annually, for an estimated cost savings to the County of \$1,250,000, and payments to the County at a minimum of \$725,000 over the potential five-year term, for a total five-year benefit of \$1,975,000. Your Commission unanimously approved the amendment in concept at your July 2011 meeting.

SHK:ks



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October 20, 2011



Santos H. Kreimann

Director

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Chief Deputy

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TO: Beach Commission

FROM: Santos H. Kreimann, Director

SUBJECT: **AGENDA ITEM 5B - BEACH AND MARINA DEL REY SPECIAL EVENTS**

BEACH EVENTS

BEACH NATURE WALKS

Dockweiler Youth Center ♦ 12505 Vista del Mar ♦ Los Angeles ♦ 90245

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

The Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors is teaming up with the Los Angeles Audubon Society to provide free guided nature walks on Dockweiler Beach. In particular, you will look for the Western Snowy Plovers, a tiny bird that spends its life on the beach eating, sleeping, resting and laying its eggs right in the sand! You will be walking on the beach, so dress appropriately and bring plenty of water. **Space is limited, so please call to pre-register at (310) 726-4128.** A parking pass is available for \$2 at the Dockweiler Youth Center office.

WINTER 2011 DATES

Sundays - November 13, November 20 and December 11

For more information call: (310) 726-4128

SKECHERS PIER TO PIER FRIENDSHIP WALK

City of Hermosa Beach

Sunday, October 30, 2011

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

This annual Skechers Pier to Pier Friendship Walk is a 3.4-mile event, from Manhattan Beach Pier to Hermosa Beach Pier. The event is devoted to improving the lives of children with special needs.

MARINA DEL REY

FISHERMAN'S VILLAGE WEEKEND CONCERT SERIES

Sponsored by Pacific Ocean Management, LLC

All concerts from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 22

Jimi Nelson & The Drifting Cowboys, playing Country & Western

Sunday, October 23

The Elian Project, playing Latin Contemporary

Saturday, October 29

Friends, playing Rhythm & Blues

Sunday, October 30

Bob DeSena, playing Latin Jazz

For more information call: Pacific Ocean Management at (310) 822-6866

SHK:ks



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October 20, 2011

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Director

Kerry Silverstrom
Chief Deputy

Gary Jones
Deputy Director

TO: Beach Commission
FROM: *Kerry Silverstrom for*
Santos H. Kreimann, Director

SUBJECT: **AGENDA ITEM 5D – CAPITAL PROJECTS STATUS REPORT**

Item 5D on your agenda provides the Commission with a status report on the Department's six beach capital projects.

Supervisory District 3

(1)	Will Rogers SB - Coastline Drive Development	\$ 9,514,000
(2)	Dan Blocker-West Improvement Project	4,790,000
(3)	Beach Restroom Septic System Replacement Program	13,788,000
(4)	Venice Beach Parking Lot Reconstruction	1,252,000
(5)	Surfrider Beach Tank Removal	<u>394,960</u>
	Subtotal	\$29,738,960

Supervisory District 4

(6)	Redondo Beach Renourishment Project	<u>5,457,000</u>
	Subtotal	\$ 5,457,000
	Grand Total:	\$ 35,195,960

(1) Will Rogers SB – Coastline Drive Development

The project includes: reconstruction of the parking lot; construction of an engineered seawall and slope; removal to below grade of the existing wooden pilings; construction of a view deck and ADA-compliant beach access ramp; and landscaping, irrigation and security lighting improvements.

Current Status: Construction documents are complete. The Department of Public Works (DPW) expects to receive from the environmental consultant the final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) by October 21. Once the MND is presented to and approved by the Board of Supervisors, regulatory permits will be sought.

(2) Dan Blocker Beach-West Improvement Project

The project involves the development of an unimproved westerly portion of this beach site, all of which will be ADA-complaint and includes a small paved parking lot; ramp to the beach; bluff top trail; benches and picnic facilities with protective railings; new perimeter fencing; and bluff top and slope native planting, with minimal irrigation for erosion control.

Current Status: While DPW continues to work with the property owner on acquisition of the property needed for the project, it has issued a Notice to Proceed (NTP) to a geotechnical consultant to conduct percolation testing and geotechnical investigation work. This work is expected to take two to three weeks.

(3) Beach Restroom Septic System Replacement Program

This program consists of the replacement of septic systems and leach fields at 16 County operated beach locations in the Topanga and Malibu areas. Each project includes the removal of existing septic pumps and tanks and installation of an advanced treatment septic system, including pumps, tanks, telemetry monitoring system, filter pods, and leach field.

Current Status: Replacement of the septic system and leach fields at the Zuma Maintenance Yard and Restroom No. 6 is now expected to start March 2012 and be completed by the end of April 2012. Replacement at Zuma Restroom Nos. 2, 7, 8 and 9 continues to be scheduled to commence after Labor Day 2012.

(4) Venice Parking Lot Reconstruction

Part II of this project is to reconstruct the parking lot at Washington Blvd.

Current Status: As reported last month, the Department has placed the reconstruction of the Washington Boulevard parking lot on hold pending the results of the City of Los Angeles' decision regarding the feasibility of taking back operation and maintenance responsibilities for Venice Beach.

(5) Surfrider Beach Tank Removal

The abandoned saltwater concrete tank was uncovered during the storms of 2004-05. This project is to remove the upper portion of the tank to prevent accidental damage to deep cleaning beach maintenance equipment.

Current Status: DPW is reviewing the proposal by its selected consultant to revise the construction drawings and reevaluate the current environmental document. An NTP to this consultant is expected to be issued by the end of October.

(6) Redondo Beach Renourishment Project

This project will renourish the beach between the Topaz Groin and the Redondo Pier, with approximately 30,000 to 60,000 cubic yards of sand.

Current Status: As previously reported, the Department intends to use clean dredged material barged from the Marina del Rey Maintenance Dredging project, which is scheduled for January 2012, in order to renourish Redondo Beach. It is presently contemplated that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will dredge 160,000 cubic yards of clean sand from the Marina channel's north entrance and barge it to a pit just offshore of Redondo Beach, which can hold up to 180,000 cubic yards of sand. The Corps will then pump 60,000 – 80,000 cubic yards onshore between the Ruby Groin and the Topaz Groin, which will elevate the berm to about 15 feet and widen the beach approximately 20 feet. The remaining 100,000 cubic yards will stay in the pit in case it is needed for renourishment in the near future. It is not recommended that any sand be pumped onshore between the Redondo Beach Pier and the Ruby Groin, as this area has a healthy beach and any sand added to it will more than likely be washed away into the underwater canyon within a few days.

The Department has issued an NTP to a harbor engineer consultant to conduct beach and offshore site surveys, as well as prepare the construction plans for the Redondo Beach renourishment project. These tasks should be completed within the next two weeks.

SHK:ks



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October 20, 2011

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TO: Beach Commission
FROM: *Kerry Silverstrom for*
Santos H. Kreimann, Director

SUBJECT: **AGENDA ITEM 5F – DOCKWEILER YOUTH CENTER USAGE REPORT**

At last month's meeting, Commissioner McCurdy requested a status report on the usage of the Dockweiler Youth Center (DYC). Since it opened its doors to the public on October 21, 2009, the DYC has been the location of many special events and is also used as a location for public classes, such as nature walks, shore fishing, yoga, meditation, and women's self defense classes. These activities are primarily attended by adults.

Currently, the only youth programming available at the DYC is the Department's shore fishing classes and its summer Discovery Beach Camp. The shore fishing class is introductory for all ages and teaches the basic knowledge and skills to catch fish from the beach. It is held year-round on scheduled Saturday or Sunday mornings and taught by DYC Recreation Services staff. Class participants are predominantly parents and grandparents with their children and grandchildren. Since commencement in January 2010, there have been 146 participants, with 90 of those being under 18 years old, 79 of which were under 13 years of age.

The Discovery Beach Camp is exclusively a youth program. Held for the first time the week of August 8, 2011, nine children ages 7-13 were dropped off at the DYC each day for beach games and activities from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We hope to expand the number of participants next summer.

The DYC's close proximity to the sand and beach volleyball courts has also attracted many volleyball and beach soccer tournaments. The DYC and its beachfront have been used for the Copa Cabana Youth Beach Soccer Tournament, AAU Pacific Volleyball Committee, AVP Volleyball Camp, Sunshine Volleyball Club and the California Beach Volleyball Association. All of these programs were geared towards youth ages 13-18.

Originally, the DYC was going to be an additional location for an expanded Water Awareness, Training, Education, and Recreation (W.A.T.E.R.) Program. However, there has not been enough money to expand the program. Moreover, lifeguards have determined that the stretch of beach in front of the DYC is too dangerous to use for youth aquatic activities, i.e., the beach topography becomes very steep at the edge of the water causing large waves to break on shore. Accordingly, the kayaking, body boarding, surfing and swimming activities that had been expected at the DYC have not proceeded as originally planned. Equipment located at the facility is used when activities are planned at Dockweiler Beach, but it is transported for use further south near the Chevron Jetty.

Other factors have also served as an impediment to this facility being used for youth activities. Without residential areas near the facility, funds are necessary to transport youth to the facility, and recreational programmers tend to want to spend money directly on programming, not transportation. Therefore, locations closer to parks, housing and schools are preferred, where transportation is not an issue. A shortage in staffing has also been a factor in limiting the Department's ability to create and implement youth programming. All Departmental facility hours have been reduced due to reduced staffing.

Youth recreational programs have always been and will continue to be the goal and focus for our NYC Recreation Services staff. Additionally, the limited amount of youth recreational programs offered is not from lack of effort, which efforts will continue in order to increase future youth programming and participation. Nevertheless, the Department is proud that this wonderful state-of-the-art facility has been successful as a public venue, to date having hosted a total of 203 events and 37 weddings.

We welcome your thoughts relative to expanding the number of NYC offerings specifically for youth in the future.

SHK:ks